

S. Little  
1-28-04  
#9/B

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.	:	09/857,852	Confirmation No.	1150
Applicant	:	Boatman, Peter James		
Filed:	:	September 10, 2001		
Title:	:	IMPROVEMENT IN OR RELATING TO PIPES		
TC/A.U.	:	3752		
Examiner	:	Hook, James F.		
Docket No.	:	1981/2		
Customer No.	:	23638		

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JAN 26 2004

OFFICIAL

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action of September 25, 2003.

**Introductory Comments** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 6 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 10 of this paper.

Appl. No. 09/857,852  
Amdt. dated January 26, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of September 25, 2003

**Introductory Comments:**

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Non-Final Office Action dated September 25, 2003. By way of this amendment, claims 1-19 have been canceled. Claims 22-35 are new. Amendments to the specification have been made. Claims 22-35 are currently pending in the application. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested. Allowance of claims 22-35 at an early date is solicited.